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Chairman

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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DATE: April 10, 2007

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 327** - The Connecticut Light and Power Company application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a proposed substation located off Commerce Park Drive, Oxford, Connecticut.

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### I. Introduction

The application is from The Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) for the construction, maintenance, and operation of an electrical substation in the Town of Oxford, Connecticut. The proposed substation would add capacity and improve electric distribution system reliability in response to increasing electrical demand in the Oxford area. The proposal is supported by the Town of Oxford.

CL&P proposes to construct a 115-kV to 13.8-kV substation on a 15.7-acre parcel owned by CL&P. The site is located in the Oxford Commerce Park which is presently under construction. The new development is generally located north of Jacks Hill Road, east of Christian Street, west of North Larkey Road, and south of the Larkin Bridle Trail. The proposed substation would be located off the newly constructed Commerce Park Drive.

The site is undeveloped, consisting of woodland and old field areas. An existing 115-kV transmission line corridor traverses the site in a north-south direction. A 4.4-acre transmission line easement would be obtained to the north of the substation to allow for interconnection with the existing transmission line.

### II. Technical

The application includes relevant maps, descriptions of the proposed site, costs, a description of the environmental effects of the proposed construction, and health and safety information. The application meets statutory technical requirements for processing the application. Council staff believes additional information can be obtained through pre-hearing interrogatories. This project would not require an outside consultant.



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### III. Administrative Review

CL&P stated that all service and filing requirements pursuant to General Statutes § 16-501 (b) have been fulfilled.

This application has triggered a Request for Proposal (RFP) to the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Section 16a-7c. The RFP process allows for other entities to present alternatives to energy projects filed with the Council. This process allows the Council to simultaneously evaluate each energy application against potential alternatives. CEAB will issue a report to the Council April 13, 2007 that presents any alternative proposals for this application.

Pursuant to CGS § 16-50p, the Council shall render a decision within 180 days after the deadline for filing an application following the RFP process. The deadline for proposals to CEAB was February 27, 2007. The Council's proposed schedule assumes that no alternative proposals will be received by CEAB; therefore, the Council's deadline for a decision would be August 27, 2007.

### IV. Proposed Schedule

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| Application received   | December 15, 2006  |
| Completeness review  | March 13, 2007   |
| Pre-hearing Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set-One Filed</li><li>• Set-One responses received</li><li>• Set-Two Filed</li><li>• Set-Two responses due</li></ul> | March 21, 2007<br>April 5, 2007<br><i>(Tentative dates)</i><br>April 9, 2007<br>April 27, 2007 |
| Pre-hearing conference (10:00 a.m.)  | April 24, 2007   |
| Pre-filed testimony due  | May 10, 2007   |
| Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status  | May 10, 2007   |
| Field review (2:00 p.m.)   | May 16, 2007   |
| Hearing (3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)  | May 16, 2007   |
| Close of Record  | June 15, 2007  |
| Draft Findings of Fact   | June 22, 2007  |
| Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order   | July 11, 2007  |
| Deadline for Decision  | August 27, 2007  |
| 180-day extension date   | February 22, 2008  |

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Siting Analyst